

*Food Safety - Critical Dimension of Food  
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# **Antibiotics: A global challenge for food safety**

**SARTER S. and To Kim Anh  
CIRAD France- HUST Vietnam**



# Antibiotics

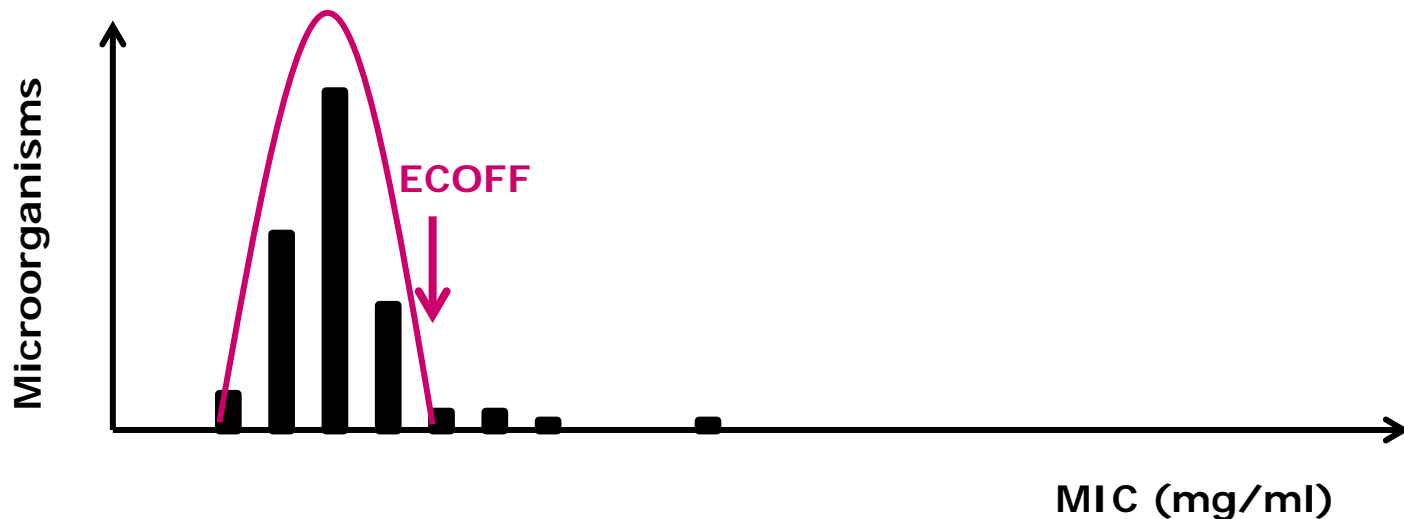
- Antibiotics are the most therapeutic agents used in animal food producing
- Bacterial resistance: Spread among the food chain and the environment
- Pathogens (*Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *E.coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*)
- Commensal bacteria (reservoir)

# Antibiotic resistance

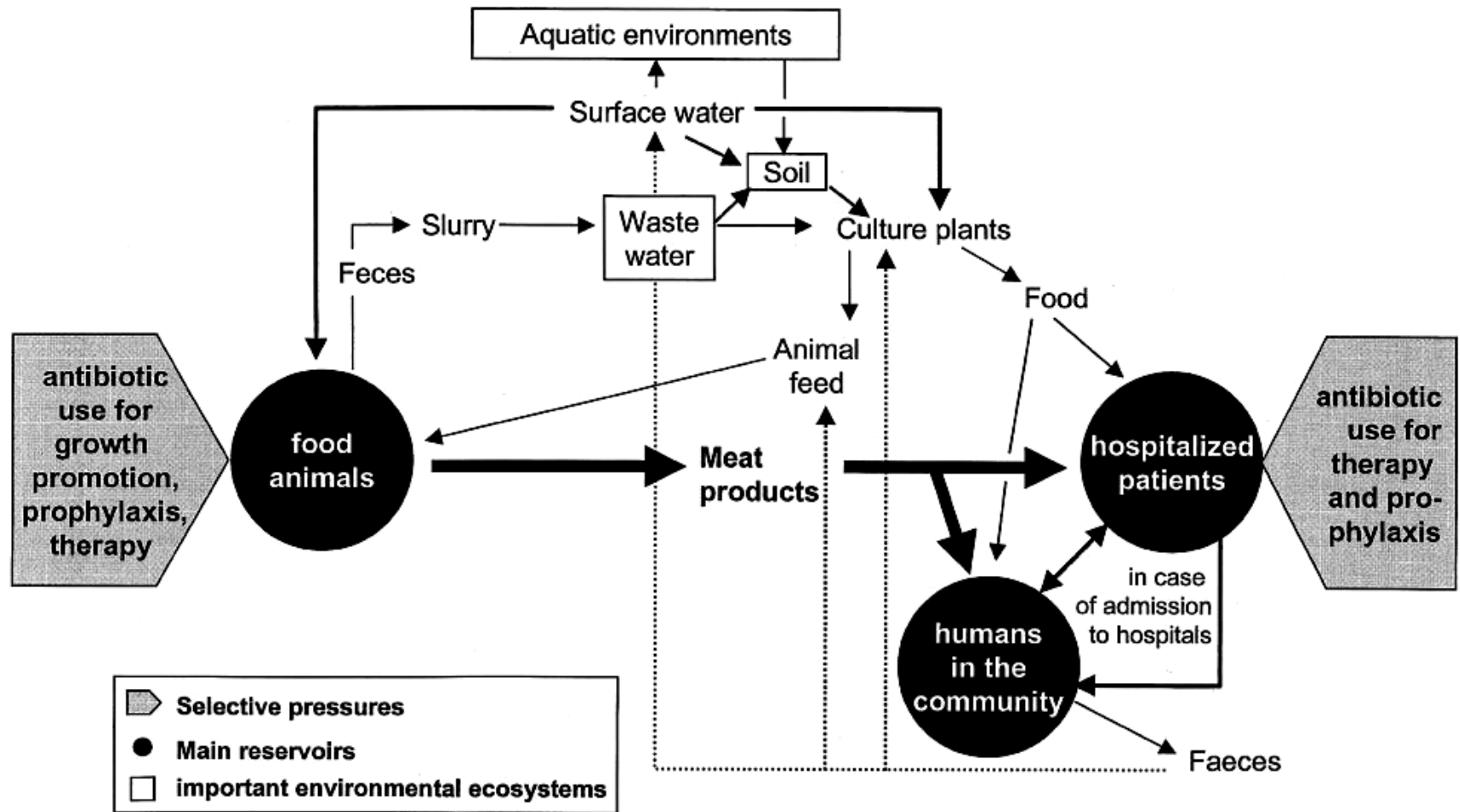
- Isolate that has a resistance mechanism rendering it less susceptible than other members of the same species lacking any resistance mechanism.
  - Different levels of resistance: low or high level of resistance
- Clinical resistance (pharmacokinetic/ pharmacodynamic parameters; criteria of cure)

# Antibiotics resistance

- Microbiological resistance
- Epidemiological Cut-off (ECOFF) value
- MIC separating the wild-type population/  
resistant isolates (mutations, HGT)



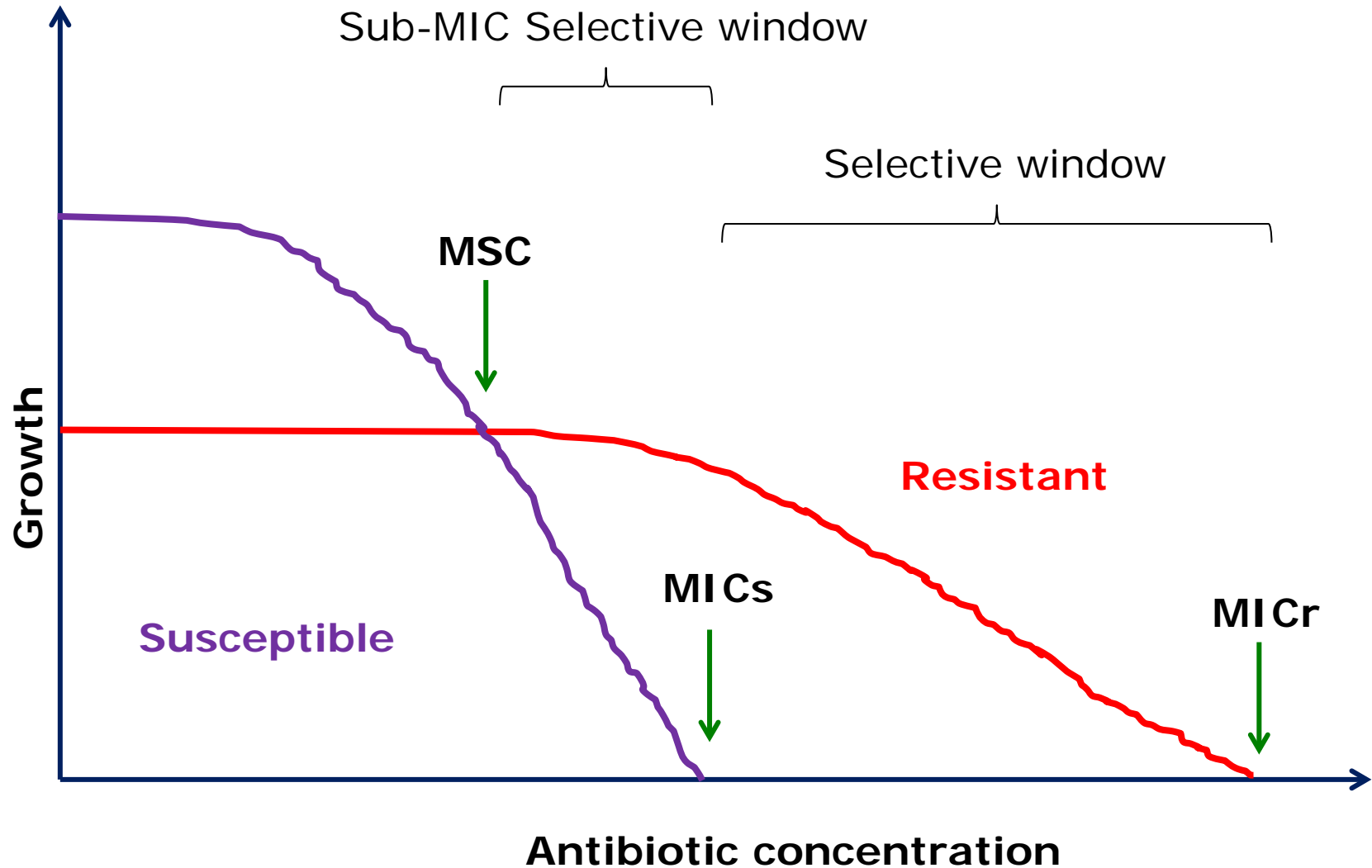
# Routes of transmission of genes conferring antibiotic resistance.



# Antibiotic resistance

- Health risks for food producing systems
  - Zoonoses diseases
- Spread of resistance genes to other pathogens of diverse origins (mobile elements...)

**Implications on animal and human health; and on the microbial ecology of the environment.**



*Andersson and Hugues, FEMS 2011.*

# Antibiotics

- Mutants of *E. coli* and *Salmonella enterica* with resistance to AB (TET, FQ, AG)
  - Selection of R bacteria can occur at AB concentrations up to several hundred-fold below the MIC of the S strains
- Ultralow antibiotic concentrations found in many natural environments are sufficiently high to confer the selection and persistence of antibiotic resistance.



# Food production systems

- Impact beyond the farm
- Persistence of AB in environment
- Once acquired, resistant genes are transferred among bacteria of different ecological niches (even if no use AB)



# Antibiotic resistance

## *Salmonella* spp.

- Resistance in meat: Porc 50-73% ; Chicken 45%
  - Tetracycline, sulphonamide, streptomycin, ampicillin, chloramphenicol, trimethoprim, nalidixic acid
- Multiresistance : 21-56% of isolates
  - 7-9 antibiotics: 15% / 10-13 antibiotics: 8%

## *Campylobacter* spp.

- Chicken: 95% resistance to fluoroquinolones (critical AB)

## *Escherichia coli* : a reservoir

- Resistance: 84% of isolates of beef, poultry, porc
- Multiresistance: Chicken 89%; Porc 75%
- Resistance to fluoroquinolones: 16-21% of isolates, mainly in chicken samples (52-63%)

*Garin et al. IJFM 2012; Thi Thu Hao Van et al. IJFM 2012; Truong Ha Thai et al. IJFM 2012; Thi Thu Hao Van et al. AEM 2007; Thi Thu Hao Van et al. IJFM 2008.*

# Antibiotic resistance

- Multiresistant *Salmonella* from food or food-producing animals are common in different countries:
  - Malaysia 49-75% (n=88)
  - Thailand 44-66% (n=342)
  - Vietnam 21-56% (n=180)
- Multiresistant *E. coli* (n=99) in raw meat (chicken, pork, beef), shellfish and chicken faeces:
  - 89.5% in chicken meat
  - 95% in chicken faeces
  - 75% in pork meat isolates

# Antibiotic resistance

- Large conjugative plasmids and integrons containing many antibiotic determinants have been found in:

- *Salmonella* (35% and 13% respectively)
- *E. coli* (76% and 57% respectively)

in raw chicken and pork meats from the market place in Vietnam.

# Antibiotic resistance

- China: Plasmid-mediated quinolone resistance in *E. coli* isolates from animals, farmworkers, and the farm environment in pig and chicken farms
- Transferable plasmid-mediated multidrug efflux pump gene *oqxAB* which was widespread in animal farms, was also detected in 30% of human commensal *E. coli* isolates from farmworkers without any previous antimicrobial treatment or hospital admission

# Management system

**Surveillance**

AB use  
Resistance

**Decrease AB use**

Health management  
Reduce disease

**Proper use of AB**

Diagnostic  
Dose/length  
Molecules

**Contamination  
Control**

Hygiene practices  
Microbial control

Monitoring/Compliance  
Knowledge/Research  
Int. Collaborations



# Conclusion

- Best Management/Hygiene Practices
- Reduce Antibiotics in animal production
- Develop alternatives to AB (new modes of action; probiotics; vaccins...)
- Rapid methods for detection

**Need for global approaches and strategies because AMR is a global problem**